

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Office of Information Technology

Vennard Wright Director

March 5, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Re:

WC Docket No. 10-90; Letter of Support for the Expression of Interest filed by Last Mile Broadband, LLC (Broadband Connect, LLC)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter of support is being provided for the Expression of Interest filed by Last Mile Broadband, LLC in the above-referenced FCC proceeding.

Prince George's County is thrilled to enter into a public-private partnership with Last Mile Broadband, LLC to build a gigabit-capable wireline, in combination with a broadband wireless network for the provision of high-speed Internet service to its unserved and underserved communities and populations within its borders. Indeed the County intends to adopt a resolution/legislation agreeing to provide broadband services to its unserved and underserved communities, including but not limited to rural areas such as Accokeek, Baden, Brandywine, Cedar Point, Croom, Eagle Harbor, and Upper Marlboro; as well as its schools and libraries in communities where a significant percentage (at least 45%) of the student population are on free or reduced lunch.

We will specifically focus on the Southern Prince George's County, which are listed as geographic areas that are available in the Phase II experiment. However, our intent is use this program to capitalize on statewide initiative, Inter-County Broadband Network (ICBN) project, which provided a small amount of funds to build fiber connectivity to some of the schools, County agencies and other anchor institutions in the Northern part of the County.

Prince George's County will to enter into a public-private venture with Last Mile Broadband, LLC to accomplish the shared goal of providing high-speed Internet service to unserved and underserved areas of the County. As part of the planned Public-Private Partnership with Last Mile Broadband, LLC, the County plans to:

- Provide funding to building the backbone or middle-mile connectivity to support
 the build out of the last mile wireline and/or wireless broadband connectivity to
 the census blocks and tracts that are potentially eligible for the Rural Broadband
 Experiment
- Provide access to County GIS mapping showing any State or commercial fiber networks, in order to facilitate access to key assets such as fiber, conduit, utility poles and real estate
- Assist with accessing State-owned resources (e.g. towers, fiber networks)
- Facilitate ways to streamline local permitting and inspection processes to support the fiber network installation

Should the Commission have any questions regarding this matter and the County's participation in the ICBN and Connect America Phase II Rural Broadband Experiment, please me at 301-883-6575.

Best Regards,

Vennard Wright

Chief Information Officer

Enclosures

cc: Prince George's County Executive, the Honorable Rushern L. Baker, III Prince George's County Broadband Manager, Lakisha Pingshaw Last Mile Broadband, LLC (Broadband Connect, LLC)